

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please enter the following amendments:

1. (Currently Amended) A code translation method comprising the steps of:
receiving an input code stored in a hierarchical data structure, the input code including
~~a parameter related to the amount of data encoded which determines the allowable range of data amount in the input code,~~
user data at a first level of the hierarchical data structure, and
main data at a second level of the hierarchical data structure;
storing the user data and main data in a data buffer; and
generating an output code stored in the hierarchical data structure by modifying the input code, by
moving the stored user data to a third level of the hierarchical data structure, and
changing the parameter to reflect the change in code size effected by [[the]]
moving the user data;
wherein the main data included in the output code is identical to the main data included in the input code.

2. (Currently Amended) The code translation method of claim 1, wherein
the hierarchical data structure conforms with the ISO 13818-2 standard;
~~the parameter related to the amount of data encoded which determines the allowable range of data amount~~ in the input code is one of a bit rate value, a VBV (Video Buffering Verifier) buffer size value, and a VBV delay value; and

the main data comprises compressed video data.

3. (Previously Presented) The code translation method of claim 2, wherein the first level of the hierarchical data structure is the Group of Pictures (GOP) layer; and the third level of the hierarchical data structure is the picture layer.

4. (Previously Presented) The code translation method of claim 2, wherein the first level of the hierarchical data structure is the picture layer; and the third level of the hierarchical data structure is the Group of Pictures (GOP) layer.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Original) The code translation method of claim 1, further comprising the step of generating additional information for distinguishing the user data included in the input code from the other main data,

wherein generation of the output code is advanced according to the additional information.

7 - 10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A code translation device comprising:
a data analyzing section adapted to identify in an input code stored in a hierarchical data structure a parameter ~~related to the amount of data encoded~~ which determines the allowable

range of data amount in the input code, user data at a first level of the hierarchical data structure, and main data at a second level of the hierarchical data structure; and

a multiplexing section which produces an output code in which the input code is modified by moving the user data to a third level of the hierarchical data structure, changing the parameter to reflect the change in code size effected by moving the user data, and including in the output code, the main data included in the input code.

12 - 13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) The code translation device of claim 11, wherein the hierarchical data structure conforms with the ISO 13818-2 standard; the parameter related to the amount of data encoded which determines the allowable range of data amount in the input code is one of a bit rate value, a VBV (Video Buffering Verifier) buffer size value, and a VBV delay value; and the main data comprises compressed video data.

15. (Previously Presented) The code translation device of claim 14, wherein

the first level of the hierarchical data structure is the Group of Pictures (GOP) layer; and the third level of the hierarchical data structure is the picture layer.

16. (Previously Presented) The code translation device of claim 14, wherein

the first level of the hierarchical data structure is the picture layer; and

the third level of the hierarchical data structure is the Group of Pictures (GOP) layer.